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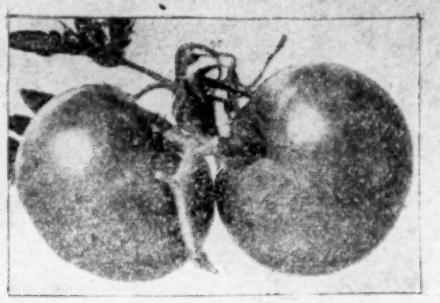
THE NEGRO FARMER

Published in the Interest of the Home, Farm and Garden; Especially Devoted to the Interest of Negro Land Owners and Tenant Farmers and Those Who Employ Negro Labor. The Only Negro Farm Newspaper in the World, to be Circulated Among 2,000,000 Black Farmers.

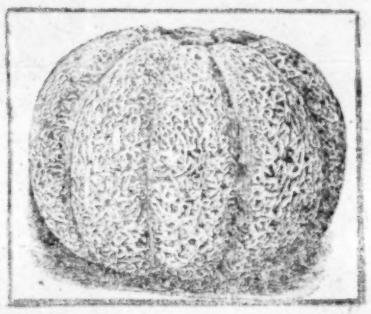
Vol. 1, No. 5 TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE, ALA., MARCH 28, 1914 5c. Per Copy. $1.00 Per Year

Cabbages-$40.



Tomatoes-$57.60

Onions-$63.

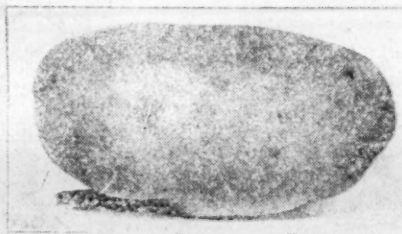


Canteloupes-$100.

COTTON-20 Cents.

The "KING CROP"

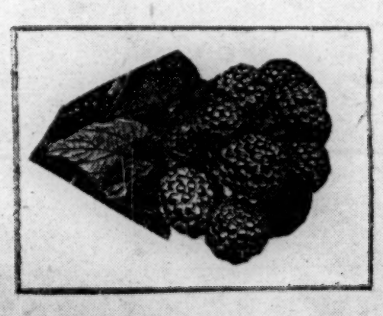
Strawberries-$250.



Irish Potatoes-$53.55.

Lima Beans-$26.

Sweet Potatoes-$72.25



Raspberries-$250.

Beets-$212.28.

PROFITS PER ACRE FROM EACH OF ELEVEN CROPS—See Article on Page Two

A Comparison between the Profit from One Acre of Cotton, grown in the Ordinary wasteful manner of the Average Farmer, and Ten other Crops produced in the ordinary manner. Profits on the Truck Crops are below the average in most cases.

DO NOT GET EXCITED OVER THESE FIGURES
DO NOT BEGIN EXCLAIMING—"THE FIGURES ARE NOT CORRECT!"
READ THE ARTICLE ON PAGE TWO, AND DO SOME THINKING

PROFIT PER ACRE ON ELEVEN DIFFERENT CROPS

COTTON GIVES LOWEST FIGURE OF ALL

Below will be found some estimates on the cost of producing certain crops and the profit to the farmer from the same. The estimates have been made by persons and agencies that are authorities on the crops discussed. But it should be remembered that no one can give figures that exactly express either the cost or profits arising from cultivating an acre of any of the crops mentioned here. At best, one can do no more than "get close" to the truth, and the figures and estimates below attempt to do no more than that.

One farmer will produce more than another on a given acre of land; the soil in one section will be better for a certain crop than the soil in another; and various other agencies will influence the cost and returns in growing a particular crop. However, it is possible to get an idea of relative cost and profits on growing certain crops, and the facts set up here are valuable in leading to that result.

Cotton

Because cotton is the crop that most colored farmers grow, it is discussed first.

In the work "The Knapp method of Growing Cotton," detailed estimates are made on the cost and profits, respectively, from the cultivation of an acre of cotton by both the good farming method and the poor farming method. Since it was stated that the poor farming method is the one in general use, the cost and profit under that method is used here, to correspond with the other crops that are grown under general methods.

The estimate on cotton, given below, makes no allowance for wear and tear on teams and implements. The figures are as follows:

Cost of Growing an Acre of Cotton

Chopping stalks	$ 50
Breaking land	1 50
Harrowing	50
Opening furrows and distributing fertilizers	1 00
Bedding and harrowing for planting	1 50
Planting	75
Chopping and hoeing	1 50
Cultivation	4 50
Fertilizer	3 00
Seed (for planting)	25
Picking	3 60
Ginning and baling	1 20
Hauling to gin and market	60
Rent on land	3 00
Total	23 40
Seed at $18 per ton brings	3 60
Lint at 10 cents per pound brings	20 00
Total	23 60

Profit

Income from lint and seed is $23.60; and the expenses are $23.40. The net profit is twenty cents.

Sweet Potatoes

A Kansas grower makes the following estimate as the—

Cost of Growing One Acre of Sweet Potatoes

(14th Biennial Rpt. Kansas Bd. of Agriculture, p. 257.)

Ground rent	$ 7 00
Seed (five bushels, at fifty cents)	2 50
Bedding, (including cover for one year)	2 00
Setting	3 00
Cultivating, scraping, and re-ridging	1 00
Hoeing	4 50
Turning vines for re-ridging	75
Harvesting, (100 bushels, at seven cents)	7 00
Total	27 75

An average price of $1.00 per bushel is paid for sweet potatoes. This makes the gross income from the acre $100. Deducting the cost of growing the potatoes there would be left $72.25 as profit.

Onions

In his work on "Market Gardening" (Edition of 1905, p. 129) Burnet Landreth makes the following estimate of the—

Cost of Growing an Acre of Onions

Use of land for twelve months	$20 00
Fertilizers applied	30 00
Fall plowing under	2 00
Spring preparation of ground	6 00
Cost of seed, six pounds at $2	12 00
Drilling in	2 00
Top-dressing 1 barrel salt	1 00
Topping 420 bushels onions	12 00
Hauling the same four miles	12 00
Total Cost	$147 00
Cost per bushel	$ 35

The average price of onions per bushel is $.50. This would make the gross returns from the crop above (420 bushels) $210.00. Deducting the expenses there would be a profit of $63.00.

Tomatoes

(Estimates made by the Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station—Bulletin 101).

Itemized Cost Per Acre of Growing Tomatoes in Delaware

Plowing and Fitting	$3.51
Cost of Plants (purchased)	2.41
Fertilizer	6.70
Setting	1.52
Cultivation	2.54
Picking	7.75
Marketing	9.18
Rent of land at 6 per cent on a $75.00 valuation per acre	4.50
Total	$38.61

If the plants are raised by the grower, the cost per acre will be decreased by $1.41, leaving a total of $37.20 per acre. Omitting the rent of land from the above table, we have a cost of $34.11. One hundred and twenty farmers attempted to estimate the cost of raising an acre of tomatoes without itemizing the cost, and an average of their estimates, not including the rent of land, was $31.80 per acre.

Does it Pay to Raise Tomatoes for Canning Purposes?

From the estimated cost of raising an acre of tomatoes, we can see that, at $8.00 a ton paid for the fruit delivered at a cannery, one must produce 4.8 tons per acre before he begins to realize any profit on the crop. On a five-ton yield, at this price, the profit would be $1.60 per acre.

On 6 tons per acre	$ 9.60 per acre
7 " " "	17.60 " "
8 " " "	25.60 " "
9 " " "	33.60 " "
10 " " "	41.60 " "
11 " " "	49.60 " "
12 " " "	57.60 " "
13 " " "	65.60 " "
14 " " "	73.60 " "
15 " " "	81.60 " "

From the above figures, we can see that the crop cannot be called a profitable one unless at least 7 tons per acre are produced. If an average of seven tons per acre can be raised, tomatoes should prove as profitable as any of the grain crops.

It will be noted that the majority of the items listed under cost of production are fixed charges. However, there are two items: commercial fertilizers and cost of marketing which might perhaps be reduced. By a proper rotation of crops that will keep the soil plentifully supplied with humus, it may be possible to cut down the fertilizer bill to a small amount per year.

According to the bulletin quoted, the average yield per acre, for a period of four years was 12.07 tons. Consulting the table above it is seen that $57.60 was about the net profit from an acre of tomatoes.

Irish Potatoes

Irish potato growers from twenty-five counties in Kansas itemized the—

Cost of Growing an Acre of Irish Potatoes

The average obtained is about as follows:

Plowing	$ 1 45
Harrowing	25

To the Country School Teacher

There are hundreds of teachers at work in the country districts and small towns who can supplement their salaries and do some good at the same time by getting subscribers for The Negro Farmer.

We want every colored school teacher to feel that The Negro Farmer is meant to help him or her in his work and also to help the people in the community.

We will pay a liberal commission to teachers who want to act as our agents. Write at once for terms.

Address: The Negro Farmer

Tuskegee Institute, Alabama

Seed (eleven bushels)	7 15
Planting	60
Cultivating	1 50
Digging and marketing (per hundred bushels)	7 00
Wear and tear of tools and interest on land	6 50
Total	24 45

(This information is from the Fourteenth Biennial Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, p. 174).

Profits

The average yield is about 150 bushels of potatoes to the acre. The average price during the six-year period 1904—1909 was about fifty-two cents per bushel.

150 bushels at 52 cents	$78 00
Cost of growing	24 45
Profit	53 55

It should be noted here that in Kansas some potato growers produce from 350 to 500 bushels to the acre, while in one prize contest one grower produced 1,000 bushels. So the figures above are merely suggestive. Besides, it is true that in 1910, when potatoes were being sold for less than fifty cents per bushel in Northern States like New York, Wisconsin, and Michigan they were bringing $1.00 and $1.10 in South Carolina, Georgia, Florida and Texas.

Cabbage

(Estimates made by the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station.—Bulletin 143.)

Cost of Growing and Average Price of Crop

The cost of growing crops necessarily depends upon the character of the soil, condition of the land, distance from market, etc., so that an exact estimate is hard to make.

The following figures are estimated on the basis of the cost of growing and marketing potatoes and sugar beets as given by the Greeley Commercial Club:

Fertilizer (10 tons per acre)	$ 5.00
Plowing	2.50
Leveling and Harrowing	1.00
Seed	.50
Growing plants	1.80
Setting plants	6.00
Cultivation and ditching	2.50
Hoeing	2.00
Irrigating	1.50
Cutting and hauling	10.00
	$32.80

This cost is two dollars and twenty cents less than for potatoes, and twelve dollars and twenty cents less than for sugar beets.

Like all perishable truck crops, the price of cabbages varies inversely with the size of the crop. By far the larger part of the crop is shipped out of the State, so that local consumption makes no difference in the price. Neither does the size of the crop in the State seem to make any material difference in the price, because other competing cabbage-growing districts produce the larger part of the total output.

Profits

The following table from the books of the potato and cabbage buyers at Greeley, shows the price paid the growers each year for a consecutive period of ten years:

Year 1899	$ .40 per hundred
Year 1900	.50 per hundred
Year 1901	.75 per hundred
Year 1902	.25 per hundred
Year 1903	.40 per hundred
Year 1904	.25 per hundred
Year 1905	.50 per hundred
Year 1906	.25 per hundred
Year 1907	.50 per hundred
Year 1908	.75 per hundred

This makes an average price for ten years of 45.5 cents per hundred pounds. The average yield per acre for the State is difficult to obtain. Theoretically, with from twelve to fifteen thousand plants to the acre, there should be a yield of five pounds per head, or from fifty to seventy-five thousand pounds per acre. In practice, only from fifty to seventy-five per cent of the plants ever make heads. As many pounds per acre could be obtained by placing the plants much farther apart. Large heads however, are undesirable for shipping, so the size per head is cut down by thick planting. The actual yield per acre is from fifteen to fifty thousand pounds.

The minimum yield at the average price makes a gross return of about seventy-five dollars per acre and a net return of something over forty dollars. This year some fields near Greely have brought a gross return of $355.25 per acre.

Lima Beans

(Estimates made by the California Agricultural Experiment Station—Bulletin 224.)

COST OF PRODUCTION

"It is difficult to arrive at a definite figure as to the average cost of production, but an approximate figure may be obtained from the expense account of one ranch operating in a large way at Oxnard.

	1910 750 acres	1909 680 acres
Preparation of land, per acre	$6 63	$5 92
Seed	3 00	4 50
Hand cleaning seed	20	65
Planting	35	40
Care of crop	2 35	1 75
Threshing	2 65	4 30
Sacks and twine	70	1 15
Recleaning and storage	1 00	85
Turning	50	
	$17 35	$19 52

"The above figures will doubtless represent a fair average when one is operating in a large way. It is probable that about $18.00 per acre will represent nearly the average cost of production, taking one year with another. On small places, where the cultivation is more intense, the cost of production may run $25.00, but the yields are more than proportionately increased."

Profits

"Four cents a pound may be considered as an average price for the crop for years past, although frequently it rises to above five. This gives an average gross value of $45.00 per acre for the beans. Adding to this $1.00 per acre for the value of the straw, gives a total of $46.00 per acre. The total cost of producing the crop is from $20.00 to $25.00 an acre, depending partly upon whether or not irrigation is used. The average total cost of production is probably less than $20.00 an acre, leaving an average of at least $26.00 net to the grower."

(The land for growing these beans in California has to be irrigated. This would not be true in the South.—Editor.)

Strawberries

Estimated profit is $250 per acre.

(From Bulletin 39 Florida Agricultural Experiment Station.)

Beets

According to the Mississippi Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 163, $212.28 represent the net income from an acre of beets.

Canteloupes

The Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station (Circular 14, part 1, Auburn Station) estimates that from $100 to $125 per acre is an average profit from an acre of canteloupes.

Raspberries

(From the Colorado Agricultural Experiment Station, Bulletin 171).

Cost of Growing and Profits From One Acre of Raspberries

Values—The amount received per crate varies somewhat according to amount grown and place of market. The average cost for the made up crate is about fifteen cents each. The cost of picking and carrying to packing house is about thirty cents a crate. The gross value received for an acre of red raspberries for the average year would run from four to six hundred dollars. The average expense, including cultivation, irrigation, pruning, covering, picking and packing is from one hundred twenty-five to one hundred fifty dollars per acre. This would leave a net gain of two hundred fifty to four hundred seventy-five dollars for red raspberries and two hundred to three hundred fifty for black-caps per acre.

SEED TO PLANT NOW

(South of Washington)

You may sow Extra Early Red onions and Extra Early Yellow onions. Golden Wax beans, peas, parsley, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, pumpkins, okra, muskmelons, canteloupes may all be planted now. Also potatoes.

It is time to transplant cabbage plants. To have fine lettuce and cabbage the soil must be highly manured and deep culture must be practiced.

James W. Thomas, a farmer of Bennettsville, South Carolina, began farming with one horse and $45.00. Today he employs forty families on one-third shares, owns his own plantation, a twelve-room house, and saves about $3,000 a year. He recently refused $40,000 for his place.

COLORED AGRICULTURAL CHEMIST

Challenging an implied suggestion, by Senator Hoke Smith of Georgia, that there are no Negro chemists in this country, during the debate on the agricultural extension work bill in the senate, Ralph W. Tyler has sent a letter to Senator Smith, naming a number of Negro chemists.

"I do not know a Negro chemist," was the remark of Senator Smith, which called forth the letter from Mr. Tyler. In his letter Mr. Tyler said:

At Tuskegee Institute they have a Negro agricultural chemist, Professor Carver, a graduate of the University of Iowa, whom former Secretary of Agriculture Wilson pronounced one of the best agricultural chemists in the country. There is also now in the department of agriculture a Negro chemist, Richard H. Lewis of the University of Illinois, who won his place in competition with white chemists. I could give the names of many Negro chemists, but even one is sufficient to puncture your sweeping statement that there are no Negro chemists.—St. Louis Argus.

THE NEGRO FARMER

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All subscriptions are absolutely payable in advance; and the paper will be discontinued when the time expires unless renewed.

Advertising Rates
may be had on application. No liquor advertisements accepted.

All correspondence should be directed to The Negro Farmer, and not to any particular person connected with it

In case of removal, be sure to notify us. If you fail to receive the paper regularly after subscribing for it, or if any error is noticed, subscribers will greatly help the paper by notifying us.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28, 1914

USE THE EXPERIMENT STATION IN YOUR STATE

Each State has an agricultural experiment station whose first duty is to help the farmers.

If you want any information about your crops and want the knowledge at once, write to the station and ask your questions. Better still, if you are near enough to go and ask in person, do that. They will help you. Don't wait to be invited. The station men will be glad to answer your questions.

TRYING TO CONTROL TOO MUCH LAND

Many of our farmers in all parts of the country make a mistake in trying to buy or rent too much land. We must learn the lesson everywhere that a small acreage well tilled is worth more than many acres poorly cultivated.

We know of many cases where farmers had bought small farms and paid for them; but in their attempts to secure larger amounts of land they mortgaged that which they had already paid for, and in many cases never succeeded in paying for the larger farms, and lost those which they had already paid for.

The worst feature in connection with such attempts to get hold of too much land is in the fact that while trying to buy the land, the whole family half starves and neglects itself. In many cases the houses are uncomfortable, without sufficient furniture, and even the family goes without proper food.

It is a great deal better to pay for a small farm, improve the house, and make everything comfortable around the home and get some comfort out of living instead of trying to buy more land than can be cultivated and in the meantime neglecting the wife and children.

If the farmer will give attention to cultivating a garden and orchard, and raising poultry and having some pigs and cows, the family can get much more profit and much more comfort than by trying to do too much. Forty acres of land well cultivated is worth vastly more than 100 acres poorly cultivated.

Alabama State Negro Business League to Consider Truck Farming and Poultry Raising

Mr. E. T. Attwell, of the Tuskegee Institute, President of the Alabama State Negro Business League, makes the following announcement relative to the Sixth Annual Meeting of the League, which will be held in Montgomery, Alabama, on April 21-22-23, this year:

"The first session of the meeting will be held on Tuesday evening, April 21st, and a very interesting program has been arranged by the Local Montgomery League for the entertainment of the delegates on that night. Addresses of welcome by city officials and responses are scheduled. The first morning session will begin on April 22nd at ten o'clock. The speakers on the program will include persons actually engaged in the subjects discussed. 'Truck Farming,' 'The Negro in Business,' 'Poultry Raising,' etc, will be handled by persons really engaged in their particular line. There will be a session on Wednesday night, April 22nd, another session Thursday morning, April 23rd, and the final program will be on Thursday evening, April 23rd. Following this, the visiting delegates will be tendered a reception and banquet by the Local League and other citizens of Montgomery. The Thursday evening program will include an address by the Hon. Emmett J. Scott, the Secretary of the Tuskegee Institute."

A number of local business leagues, Negro corporations, fraternal organizations, individuals operating mercantile stores and Negroes connected in various ways with organizations whose general object is for the educational, industrial and financial advancement of the race in Alabama, have signified their intention of being present.

PLANNING FOR SPRING AND SUMMER

When you want something to eat during the spring and summer months, do not plan to go to the store for it. Begin planning now to raise your own chickens, turkeys, geese, ducks, and pigs. Have your own milk and butter. Raise your own vegetables. The farmer who does this will not have to pay a large mortgage in the fall.

It will be a very good idea to let the children help work in the garden, particularly while they are going to school.

RURAL SCHOOL WORK

The third Annual Exhibit and Corn Club meeting of Tallapoosa County colored public schools was held in the Tallapoosa County Court House Feb. 21, 1914. The meeting was attended by 400 farmers, their wives, and school boys and girls from 25 communities of the county. Twenty schools exhibited their work upon the walls of the Court House in a neat and attractive fashion. Five schools arrived too late to have their work properly arranged. Immediately following dinner the entire force formed a line, marched to the Court House, and the program began at 2:00 o'clock.

Mr. J. P. Oliver, former Superintendent of Education of Tallapoosa, was present and made an interesting talk along the line of progress made in Tallapoosa County public schools within recent years. Immediately following Mr. Oliver's talk, Probate Judge G. J. Sorrell, of Tallapoosa County, made the principal address. His speech well represented the sentiment of the best and high-classed whites of the Southland.

Mr. A. McIntosh, Assistant Supt. of Education in a short, but interesting talk awarded the prizes to the following corn growers: Emery Herron, Camp Hill, 1st prize, $10.00, raised 71 bu. 38 lbs. on an acre. Albert Reese, Dadeville, 2nd prize, $8.00, raised 69 bu. on an acre. Oscar Woodie, Camp Hill, 3rd prize, $7.00, raised 65 bu. 56 lbs. on an acre. Ollin Smith, Camp Hill, 4th prize, $5.00, raised 63 bu. 37 lbs. on an acre. Jno. Daniels, Camp Hill, 5th prize, $4.00, raised 63 bu. 25 lbs. on an acre. Arthur Hughes, Waverly, 6th prize, $3.00, raised 61 bu. 1 lb. on an acre.

The above are those who won prizes for 1913, but the following are those who deserve special attention for sending in their reports promptly. Though not prize winners, they made good records in growing corn:

Bertha Pulliam, Camp Hill, 61 bu. 18 lbs. Joseph Johnson, Camp Hill, 59 bu. 23 lbs. Jessie Abner, Camp Hill, 58 bu. 50 lbs. Sammie Crabb, Waverly, 55 bu. 6 lbs. Rufus Stroud, Dadeville, 42 bu. 30 lbs. Early Brooks, Dadeville, 37 bu. 38 lbs. Roy Hicks, Camp Hill, 24 bu. 38 lbs.

From the thirteen acres of land cultivated by the above named 13 boys 733 bushels and 18 lbs. of corn were made.

The growing interest manifested in corn growing is made evident by the enlisted number for 1914. At present 102 persons between the ages of 10 and 21 years have been enrolled. Two of this number are girls. For the prizes for 1914, $30.00 have been subscribed by the colored people.

—Thos. J. Edwards.

Any person who seeks to help our farmers without helping them to have better rural schools seeks to do what is impossible.

WINNERS FROM THE SOIL

COLORED HEROES OF THE FARM

Henry Kirklin, Gardener, Truck Grower

How a King Secured a Garden

A few thousand years ago, a king named Ahab looked out of his window and saw a vineyard adjoining his palace and decided that he wanted it to use as a garden; but the owner would not sell it; and, so Mrs. Ahab (she was called Jezebel), had the owner, Naboth, stoned to death and she and the king had their garden.

How different was this method of getting a garden from that followed by a colored man who decided to do what Jeremiah advised the captive Jews in Babylon to do, that is to "Plant gardens, and eat the fruit of them." (Jeremiah 29:5.)

How a Colored Man Got a Garden

Henry Kirklin, of Columbia, Missouri, has found wealth, comfort and happiness because he wanted a garden; set out to get it in the proper manner; and gives to it the attention which gardens must receive if they are to yield best results.

Learning Without Being Taught

After working for a farmer and nurseryman during his boyhood days, he was given the work of a common laborer in the Horticultural Department of the University of Missouri, for whites. He remained in this place eleven years, mastering many things connected with the Department and becoming so efficient and helpful that he was often assigned to give instruction in many of the agricultural and horticultural studies carried on in the field by the Department. This was doing pretty well; but Kirklin wanted a garden of his own.

Starting a Garden on a Half Acre of Land

In 1883 he bought half of an acre of land just outside of Columbia, and with a few old sashes and some rough lumber, made his first hotbed. Here he toiled and grew vegetables for seven years, peddling them in wheelbarrows and push carts. But by this time the trade of this man who was "diligent in his business" had grown so that he needed more land; but instead of seeking to get it unfairly, he borrowed $300 from a bank to pay for it, then made enough money on his additional crops to pay the bank, and the garden was his. Today, over the entrance to his truck farm there is a sign, "Henry Kirklin, Gardener."

Does His Garden Pay

If you ask whether his garden pays or not, the answer may properly be put in the words of Philip, in answer to Nathanael's question, "Can there any good thing come out of Nazareth?"—"Come and see." The figures following will give the sight needed to answer the question whether Kirklin's garden pays:

One year he sold $675 worth of strawberries from two-thirds of an acre.

The returns for four years from same crop on same land were $1,600.

Last year celery brought him $170.

One year he received $400 from his tomatoes.

Another year he received $127.50 from radishes; $155.80 from lettuce; $40 from canteloupes; besides what he received from the sale of his celery, sweet corn, cauliflowers, lima beans, and other vegetables.

Honors Also Came to This Man Who Bonght a Garden

At both the Jamestown, Virginia, and Buffalo, New York, Expositions Kirklin's vegetables won medals and diplomas.

Besides this, the Missouri State Board of Agriculture frequently sends him to lecture to colored farmers' institutes.

Value of His Garden, Etc.

The one-half acre has been added to until the garden contains a large number of acres, which, together with the home of the gardener, is paid for, and the value of the garden property and all is said to be not less than $10,000.

Verily this garden and its gardener are very much worth while.

FARMERS' CONFERENCE AT LANE COLLEGE

Jackson, Tennessee

The eleventh annual farmers' conference at Lane College, Jackson, Tennessee, Feb. 26-27, despite the snow and cold weather, was splendidly attended by farmers, and their wives, and business and professional men.

President Lane deserves great credit for the practical kind of program which he prepared, and the method he followed in conducting the Conference. Such subjects as "The necessity of Stopping the leaks on the farm, such as waste of time, of money, supplies, and fertilizers," and "Truck Gardening," "Needs of our Schools," and "Making farm work more profitable," were timely, well discussed and helpful. Hon. J. C. Napier, former Register of the United States Treasury, lent dignity and interest to the gathering. Editor Hart of the Nashville Globe also helped make the meeting a success.

Saving Sweet Potatoes

Prof. T. M. Campbell, District Agent in the Farmers' Demonstration Work for the United States Department of Agriculture rendered unusually good service not only by his practical talks on farming, but by his helpful line of questions whenever a farmer was telling of his experiences. He must be given credit for bringing forcibly to the attention of the Conference the story of Wm. Cathey, a man who told how he was really succeeding in saving his sweet potatoes. The Negro Farmer plans to publish this story later.

Women's Session

Mrs. Lane presided during the Women's session, and she was in the chair but a few minutes before the men were receiving some light on the feelings of the average wife—feelings relative to what the women on the farm really desire, but which are denied to them. If the Conference had done no more than hold that one meeting, it would have been justified.

"Woman—a help meet" was the subject, and it was discussed along lines showing how she can be made one if her husband will be unselfish, patient, loving and thoughtful in dealing with her. Mrs. Lane ought to have an opportunity to reach a larger number of husbands, for verily, the woman knows the heart and desires of her sisters on the farm.

"The Temperance Cause and Home" was splendidly treated by Mrs. J. W. Banks, and "Woman and the Needle" was given by a woman who makes every garment she wears.

It was a great meeting!

Of the contribution made to the meeting by The Negro Farmer, it must suffice to say that because of his address on the dignity of farming, made earlier in the session, the editor of that paper was asked by persons in the audience, through President Lane, to say the last word in the Conference. The Christian Index of Jackson, Tennessee, referred to the incident as follows:

> After hearing the reports of the various committees, Prof. Campbell sang a beautiful solo, after which Editor Fisher of the Negro Farmer was given the honor of closing the session. Editor Fisher, with burning words admonished the men, here representing "God's vocation," to "Sail on, and on, and on, and on," to higher and nobler endeavors, and in spite of besetments, disappointments, and failures to sail on; thus closing out in a blaze of glory, long to be a cherished memory in the hearts of all West Tennesseans, one of the greatest Conferences ever held on Lane College soil.

What is Considered a Day's Work in Plowing (Cultivating)

The Assistant Agriculturist in the Office of Farm Management, U. S. Bureau of Plant Industries, from experiments made by agents of the Bureau throughout the country and from reports made by a large number of farmers, has found that the amount of plowing (cultivating) that a man and one or two horses should do in a day of about nine hours and forty-eight minutes is as follows:

Corn.—With one horse, four and three-tenths acres; with two horses, seven acres.

Cotton.—With one horse, four and a quarter acres; with two horses, six and four-fifths acres.

Potatoes.—With one horse, three and four-fifths acres; with two horses, five and nine-tenths acres.

Beans.—With one horse, three and one-half acres; with two horses, five and seven-tenths acres.

Cabbage.—With one horse, three and seven-tenths acres; with two mules, nearly five and one-half acres.

THE "BIG WORDS" AND EVENTS EXPLAINED

FARMERS' DICTIONARY

STOVER—Fodder for cattle, especially straw or coarse hay.

PARASITES—These are plants or animals that live on other plants or animals. Lice and tapeworms are parasites.

TENANT FARMING is defined by the United States Census Bureau as being "a continuous tract of land of considerable area under the general supervision or control of a single individual or firm. All or a part of such tract being divided into at least five smaller tracts, which are leased to tenants."

"A FARMER" OR "FARM OPERATOR," according to the census definition, is a person who directs the operations of a farm. Hence, owners of farms who do not themselvs direct the farm operations are not reported as farmers.

"FARM OWNERS" include (1) farmers operating their own land, only, and (2) those operating both their own land and some land hired from others.

"FARM TENANTS" are farmers who, as tenants, renters, or croppers, operate hired land only.

SHARE TENANTS are those who pay a certain share of the products, as one-half, one-third, or one-quarter.

SHARE-CASH TENANTS are those who pay a share of the products for part of the land rented by them and cash for part, as cash for pasture or garden, and a share of all the other crops grown on plowed land.

CASH TENANTS are those who pay cash rental a stated amount of labor or products, such as $7, 10 bushels of wheat, or 100 pounds of cotton per acre.

FIGHTING THE BOLL WEEVIL

At present, all that is known about fighting and getting ahead of the boll weevil may be summed up in the following directions:

1. The most important thing is to destroy the majority of the weevils in the fall by getting the cotton stalks up by the roots and burning the plants. If it is not easy to burn the stalks, they should be uprooted just the same. If the plants cannot be uprooted, turning plows should be used in damp, moist sections, to cover the squares that fall on the ground just as soon as the fields become full of the weevils in the summer or fall. This will kill many of the weevils that will be on the squares.

2. Clear out all trash, shrubbery, weeds, etc., that may be found along hedgerows, around fences, and buildings, and burn it. Then destroy as many of the weevils as can be found in the field after the first attempts to kill them have been made.

3. Locate your fields as far away from danger of weevils as you can. You cannot always do this, but do your best.

4. Prepare the land early and thoroughly in order to obtain an early crop. This means fall plowing and winter working of the land.

5. Provide wide rows and plenty of space between the rows, and the plants in the drill to assist the natural enemies of the weevils, which do more against the pest than the farmer can do himself. Check rowing is also an excellent practice.

6. Make sure of an early crop by early planting of early-maturing kinds of cotton, and by fertilizing wherever necessary.

7. Continue to work for an early crop by chopping the cotton to a stand early, and working it often; but do not lose the fruit of the plants by cultivating too deeply or too close to the rows.

8. In wet and damp sections, if possible, pick off the first weevils that appear and the first squares that they attack. Do not destroy the squares, but put them in a screened cage where the weevils cannot get out, but which will allow the little insects that live on the weevils to escape and help attack others.

9. Don't put out any poison for the leaf-worm unless its work begins at a very early date in the summer.

10. Don't go to the expense of buying special preparations for killing the weevils. You are sure to be disappointed. Where you don't know what to do, write to the United States Bureau of Entomology, Washington, D. C., or to the experiment station in your own State.

George Andrews, of Bethel community, Texas, is a colored farmer whose wealth is estimated at about $100,000. Mr. Andrews is probably the only Negro stockholder and director of a white bank—the First National Bank, at Bells, Texas.

WITH OUR RURAL SCHOOL TEACHERS

Cotton Growing Bulletin

Teachers whose work is in the Cotton States will be helped to an understanding of cotton growing, as well as given a course of study for their schools by sending for Bulletin 20 of the Experiment Station of the Tuskegee Normal and Industrial Institute. The bulletin is entitled—"Cotton Growing for Rural Schools."

Free Agricultural Reading Course for Teachers

For the benefit of those teachers who wish to do reading work in agriculture, while carrying on their work, it is suggested that they make a start in this direction by—

(1) Writing the Division of Publications, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., for Bulletin 7 of the Office of Experiment Stations. The Bulletin is entitled "Agricultural Training Courses for Employed Teachers." It gives a list of schools maintaining courses in agriculture, and a very helpful reading course prepared by the assistant in Agricultural Education—a course employing Farmers' Bulletins which may be obtained free.

(2) Writing to the same address above for the following Bulletins relating to Agronomy—

On Soils: Farmers' Bulletins 257; 245; 406.

On Fertilizers: Farmers' Bulletins 44; 192; 278.

On Plant Production: Farmers' Bulletins 157; 428.

On Cereal Crops: Farmers' Bulletins 443; 414; 415; 313; 424; 420; 417; 534.

Joining Books, Meat, Peas, Corn, and Preserves

At Oak Grove, Alabama, there is a school taught by Miss Beatrice Edwards, that is actually linking and joining school-books, meat, peas, corn, preserves, etc. There are many others doing the same thing; but the Editor has had an opportunity to look in upon the work being done there and wishes to note, in passing, that what is being done in that school must be duplicated in a measure in all the rural schools, if school life and community life are to mean what they should.

This is no report of the agricultural meeting held at the school; but it is interesting to note that the teachers there have been instrumental in so encouraging young people to study agriculture that the Oak Grove community, recently won the $10.00 prize for largest attendance at the Tuskegee Short Course in Agriculture; and a young man, Lee Chandler, won the $10.00 prize for having made the most progress during that course.

The meeting held at the school emphasized the relation between school work and farm work, and the splendid exhibits of home-grown, home-cured meat; peas; molasses; turnips, preserves, etc., very much increased the emphasis.

The teachers, Misses Edwards and Motley deserve nothing but credit for their work.

The Negro Farmer wants stories of what rural school teachers are doing to connect the school life with the farm life. Teachers will favor this paper by writing to us about their problems, work, and success. Please make note of this.

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THE BUSINESS CHAT

If you desire to know where to buy good harness, mattresses, pillows, plows, seed of various kinds—write us. If you want to know where to buy anything for the farm and country home just write The Negro Farm, about it. This department is here to answer any question of the kind for any subscriber. Please send a two-cent stamp for reply by mail. Feel safe as to the merits of business concerns advertising in these columns. From time to time as we are able to do so, we shall have market quotations for the benefit of those who want to know the prices of various articles. Remember you are at liberty, if you are a subscriber, to ask any kind of question about market prices, where to purchase seed, farm implements, etc. Any hard question concerning your farming, or your soil should be discussed for the benefit of others. So tell us about them freely. Such questions will receive prompt attention. It is a pleasure to write you in answer to them, but in any office, postage is quite an item of expense, and so we must ask that you send stamps for reply by mail.

Be sure to read carefully every advertisement appearing in The Negro Farmer this week. There are several new ones; and many things, from strawberry plants, to feather pillows, can be had by getting in touch with our advertisers. If you are thinking of colonizing and settling on new lands, write to Blackdom, New Mexico, for further information. If you desire canning outfits, seed sweet potatoes, a home shoe making booklet—or almost anything—you will find dealers represented here who carry such things. All of these are reliable people. Write them. Be sure to say you saw their ad in The Negro Farmer. This helps you, and it doesn't hurt us.

Always say; "I saw your ad in The Negro Farmer." Be a booster. Don't be a knocker of anything. Business is a thing that deserves to be boosted—so boost the business side of farming. It pays to do this.

Say: "I saw your ad in The Negro Farmer," in writing to people who advertise with us, Mr. Farmer.

—o—

SCHOOL BOYS—ATTENTION!

Remember, we allow a real liberal commission to agents of The Negro Farmer. You can earn enough money during spare time to help yourself through college. Negro farmers are subscribing for this publication at sight. You can get out among them and hustle for business. Write us today for confidential terms.

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THE NEGRO FARMER

Something New: Something Needed

A Paper That Helps People to Become Better Farmers is an Aid to the Church, the School and to the Secular and Religious Papers

It has been decided to publish at Tuskegee Institute Post Office, Every-Other-Week for the present, a national farm paper to be known as THE NEGRO FARMER. It will be published in the interest of Negro landowners, tenant farmers and of those who employ Negro labor. There is no other strictly farm newspaper in the world devoted to the interest of Negro farmers.

Many of the white farm newspapers enjoy huge circulations and there is no reason why a farm paper in the interest of Negroes should not prove equally successful. In fact, occupying an exclusive field it should enjoy a success far beyond that of the usual farm publication. It is proposed to circulate this paper among the 2,000,000 black farmers of the United States. The paper will be eight pages, of about the size of "The Country Gentleman."

DR. BOOKER T. WASHINGTON STATES:

The Tuskegee Institute has no financial interest or control over this new publication, but some of the active officers of the institution are interested in its success and believe that it will not only accomplish great good but will be a paying investment. The paper is backed by a strong organization and funds have been provided in advance to assure its publication. Those in active control of THE NEGRO FARMER have my entire confidence and good will.

—BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

The success of this project is assured because of the solid and sensible lines upon which it is being laid out.

All the capital stock has been subscribed for.

The subscription price is $1.00 a year and Subscriptions and Advertisements are invited. Clubbing rates with important Negro newspapers will be arranged for on a satisfactory basis. We are now ready to receive Subscriptions and Advertisements.

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